

FAX (2 pages)

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TO: Examiner Amy Cohen, Group Art Unit: 2859

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Victor Saunders and Adam Bell

Title: Pop-Up Device for Deterring an Attacking Animal Such As a Bear

Serial No.: 10/634,719

Filing Date: 5 August 2003

Examiner: Amy Cohen

Group Art Unit: 2859

INFORMAL COMMUNICATION - NEW SUGGESTED CLAIMS

Dear Examiner Cohen:

Please consider the below claims. I shall call you in the morning (Monday 29th). Claim 1 has been carefully constructed to provide a fairly narrow embodiment. None of the references cited contains the combinations of limitations in the new claims, and I believe that none of the references in combination make the invention as presently claimed (a knapsack with an inflatable animal figure integrally incorporated into it) obvious.

1. A ~~knapsack~~ comprising a device for scaring away an attacking animal, the device integrally incorporated ~~into the knapsack~~,
the device comprising an inflatable figure, wherein the inflatable figure provides a ~~visual representation of an animal~~ when inflated,
the device further comprising a compressed gas container communicably attached to the inflatable figure, the compressed gas container having an integral valve having an

open and a closed position, a pull-cord attached to the valve such that upon pulling on the pull-cord, the valve is forced into the open position,

wherein the inflatable figure becomes fully inflated within 30 seconds of the pull-cord being pulled.

2. The knapsack of claim 1 wherein inflation of the inflatable figure is accompanied by the production of a loud noise.
3. The knapsack of claim 2 wherein the noise is selected from the group consisting of: an explosion, a horn, a whistle, and a shout.
4. The knapsack of claim 1 wherein inflation of the inflatable figure is accompanied by the production of a smell.
5. The knapsack of claim 4 wherein the smell is a smell similar to that of an animal.
6. The knapsack of claim 1 wherein activation is accompanied by the production of smoke.
7. The knapsack of claim 6 wherein the smoke is produced by a pyrotechnic device.
8. The knapsack of claim 1 wherein activation is accompanied by the launching of one or more projectiles.
9. The knapsack of claim 1 wherein the figure, when inflated resembles a bear.
10. A method for deterring an attack by an animal upon a user using the knapsack of claim 1, the method comprising activating the device wherein the device increases rapidly in size, thereby scaring the animal and deterring the attack upon the user.